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The following officers were elected:

President: Chas. H. Herty, formerly editor of the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry.*

Vice-Presidents: C. N. Turner of the Dyestuff Section; Herman Seydell of the Pharmaceutical Section; S. W. Wilder of the Intermediate Section; B. T. Bush of the Fine Organic Chemical Section.

Members of the Board of Governors: R. S. Burdick; R. C. Jeffcott; August Merz; M. R. Poucher; P. Schleussner and F. P. Summers.

The remaining four members of the Board of Governors, one from each section, will be elected later. The president and the four vice-presidents are ex-officio members of the board of governors.

THE EDITORSHIP OF THE "JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL AND ENGINEERING CHEMISTRY"

MR. HARRISON E. HOWE has been elected to succeed Dr. Charles H. Herty as editor of the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* and director of the A. C. S. News Service, which are conducted by the American Chemical Society. Dr. Charles L. Parsons, of Washington, secretary of the society, states that Mr. Howe has accepted the positions.

Mr. Howe was graduated from Earlham College and the University of Rochester. As chief chemist of the Sanilac Sugar Refining Company, in like capacity with the Bausch and Lomb Optical Company of Rochester, New York, and as manager of the commercial department of A. D. Little, Incorporated, of Boston, and manager of the Montreal offices of that organization, he became familiar with the broadest phases of industrial chemistry. In the war he was consulting chemist of the nitrate division of the Ordnance Bureau of the United States Army. Until his election to his present position Mr. Howe was at the head of the division of research extension of the National Research Council. He writes extensively for magazines on applied chemistry and is the author of a recently published popular work, "The New Stone Age."

Dr. Herty resigned the editorship to which Mr. Howe succeeds to accept the presidency of the newly formed Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturers' Association of the United States, which has opened offices on the 34th floor of the Metropolitan Tower at No. 1 Madison Avenue. Dr. Herty's career in chemical journalism has been varied by many public activities. By special appointment of President Wilson he went to Paris in 1919 as the representative of the United States in the matter of the distribution of German dyestuffs under the economic clauses of the Peace Treaty. Dr. Herty was also chairman of the committee of the American Chemical Society advisory to the Chemical Warfare Service, member of the dye advisory committee of the Department of State, and chairman of the advisory committee of the National Exposition of Chemical Industries. Before beginning this work, Dr. Herty had been a professor in chemistry at the University of Georgia and at the University of North Carolina. In his new position he will devote himself to the development of American synthetic organic chemical industry.

DIRECTOR OF THE HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY

As was noted last week in SCIENCE, Dr. Harlow Shapley, formerly of the Mt. Wilson Solar Observatory at Pasadena, Cal., and for the past eight months observer at the Harvard College Observatory, has been appointed director of the Harvard Observatory. That post has been vacant since the death of Professor Edward C. Pickering in 1919.

An article in the *Harvard Alumni Bulletin* states that Dr. Shapley was born thirty-five years ago at Nashville, Miss. He studied at the University of Missouri, and received the degree of Ph.D. at Princeton. From 1914 until last spring, when he came to Harvard, he was attached to the Mt. Wilson Observatory.

At Mt. Wilson he perfected methods of measuring star distances photometrically, and applied these methods to the problem of the distances and structures of the great star-clusters. His work has given a new perception of the size of the stellar universe, and shown that it is at least a thousand times larger than it was thought to be before the distances to the clusters were measured. Dr. Shapley has discovered, furthermore, that the sun is not at the center of the sidereal universe, as was formerly supposed, but several hundred quadrillion miles away from it.

Dr. Shapley's studies of the famous star-cluster in Hercules known as "Messier 13" have proved that this cluster has a diameter of more than two and a half quadrillion miles, and contains probably more than 50,000 stars, each of them intrinsically brighter than the sun. His researches have also played a large part in establishing the fact that the great star-clusters are found only at immense distances from the plane of the galaxy, or Milky Way, but appear to be falling into it. Dr. Shapley's hypothesis is that the Milky Way itself may be composed of former star-clusters which have dissolved.

Dr. Shapley is also known as an entomologist, and has done interesting work in investigating the ants of the California mountains. He discovered that the speed at which these creatures move depends on the temperature, and that for some species the time of running through a "speed-trap," as shown by the stop-watch, gives the temperature of the surrounding air within one degree. He found that the ants went twelve times as fast at 100 degrees as at 50 degrees.

Professor Solon I. Bailey, who has been associated with the Harvard Observatory for more than thirty years and has been Acting Director since the death of Professor Pickering, expects to leave Cambridge within a few months for Arequipa, Peru, to take charge of Harvard's South American astronomical station there and place it again on a productive basis after a period of dormancy due to war conditions. He will resume his observations on the variable stars in southern clusters.

A SOUTHERN FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION

DURING July a new forest experiment station was established by the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, with headquarters, for the present, at New Orleans, La. Experiments will be conducted in the large and important timber region extending from eastern Texas, through Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, to the Carolinas. Mr. R. D. Forbes, until recently superintendent of forestry for the Conservation Commission of Louisiana, has accepted the directorship of the station. Mr. Lenthall Wyman, formerly a member of the Forest Service in Arizona and Montana, and more recently in the State Forester's office in Texas, will be one member of the staff. Mr. W. R. B. Hine, a recent graduate of the Cornell School of Forestry, is the second member. One vacancy in the technical staff remains to be filled.

The importance of this region, in which large areas of land are suitable only for growing timber, makes the establishment of this station, to work out the best methods of producing, growing, and protecting the forests, particularly opportune. Such important and valuable species as longleaf, shortleaf and loblolly pines, and cypress amply justify a considerable outlay to insure their perpetuation and increase their production.

The establishment of the Southern Forest Experiment Station was made possible by a small increase in the appropriation for the investigative work of the Forest Service for the present year. It is not sufficient to permit the construction of buildings and laboratory facilities, and it is planned for the first year to concentrate on field work in the most urgent problems.

ORGANIZATION FOR RESEARCH AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE

THE members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa., held a meeting on November 2. Dinner was served at the University Club to about thirty members. The speaker was Dr. L. R. Jones, professor of plant pathology of the University of Wisconsin and chairman of the Division of Biology and Agriculture of the National Research Council. His theme at this